Development of coastal circuit

458. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for approval of the Central Government for integrated development of coastal circuit in Uttara Kannada, Udupi and Dakshin Kannada Districts;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the likely date by when the proposal would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Aproposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for inclusion of projects for development of certain minor ports in the State in the National Maritime Development Programme as Centrally sponsored schemes. Another proposal from the Government of Karnataka was also received for inclusion of projects for development of certain minor ports in the 'Sagar Mala' Programme.

(c) The responsibility for development of minor ports vests with the State Government and there is no on-going scheme under which Central financial assistance could be rendered for these projects. In the light of the exercise undertaken by the Government to formulate a Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and Inland Water Transport), it has been decided not to pursue the 'Sagar Mala' Programme and Government of Karnataka has been informed accordingly.

Third phase of NHDP

459. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had drawn up plans for the launch of the third phase of the National Highways Development Programmes (NHDP-III) envisaging a total investment of Rs. 50,000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and